

4/24/06
Do not enter Blau

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From: Jeff Tuttle
Phone: 248-840-2909
Date: 1/12/06
Subject: Office Action per Application ~~200437592~~ 10/811,052

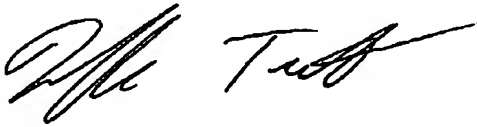
Details:

The attached revised claims are for application #10/811,052 per the attached office action. In the office action, you recommended revising the patent application to specify that the bridge feature be external to the normal body of the club and also that it being mounted only on the top. However, in reviewing the prior art cited, Thill and Saso, I felt that the primary difference between their patents and my own was that their patent used through holes or grooves to direct air flow. Since air flow is not a critical part of my patent, I have instead revised the claims to note that air flow would be blocked to ensure no aerodynamic changes. Please let me know if this is sufficient to make this patent distinct from the prior art.

Note, my original application did note that air flow was not a critical factor and the through hole could be blocked as follows: "If the inside of the hollow is filled with a material less structurally rigid than that of the bridge material, the force would still be transmitted through the more structurally rigid material, that of the bridge itself, in effect that type of structure would still be a hosel bridge as described herein. Similarly, if the ends of the hollow area are sealed with a material that is structurally rigid but is extremely thin, then the material on the ends would divert very little stress from the hosel bridge, and the design would also still be a hosel bridge as described herein."

I do have one other general patent process question for you, there is a patent application that I have found, 20050064952, that has similar art specified on the heel of the club instead of the top surface. It was filed on September 24, 2003 yet was not posted until March 24, 2005. Any idea why it was not posted until almost two years after filing? Since their filing date and my own are within six months of each other, it is not possible to tell with this paperwork who invented their design first, correct?

Kind Regards,
Jeff Tuttle


1/12/06